

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT L 00773 221128Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02
SIL-01 OMB-01 /117 W
-----034131 221138Z /15

R 221005Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6868
INFO AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMIDEASTFOR
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0773

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PGOV PINS PDIP EFIS EAID MP UR AS IMF IBRD
SUBJECT: MAURITIUS WEEKLY REVIEW - JULY 22 (SUMMARY)

REF: PORT LOUIS 750

1. THE WEEK WAS DOMINATED BY THE REPUBLICATION HERE OF STATEMENTS MADE IN AN INTERVIEW WITH A FRENCH MONTHLY, "LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE," BY MAURITIAN POLITICAL LEADERS. HERVE MASSON, A MAURITIAN MILITANT MOVEMENT (MMM) LEADER, WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT IN THE EVENT OF "AGGRESSION OR ARMED PRESSURE" AGAINST A MMM GOVERNMENT, THE PARTY WOULD TURN TO THE SOVIET UNION FOR HELP. HE ALSO STATED THAT HIS PARTY WOULD MAKE MAURITIUS INTO A "LITTLE CUBA."

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2. PAUL BERENGER, MMM SECRETARY GENERAL, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE STATED IN THE SAME JOURNAL THAT THE MMM REPRESENTED THE EXTREME LEFT (LE GAUCHISME) AND THE SOVIETS WILL HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY WHEN THE MMM COMES TO POWER, BECAUSE THE MMM BELIEVES THAT THE DANGERS FACED BY COUNTRIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA COME FROM THE UNITED STATES AND SOUTH AFRICA.

3. LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE ALSO QUOTED PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM HAS EQUIVOCATING ON WHETHER GENERAL ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD WITHIN THE CONSTITUTIONALLY REQUIRED FIVE YEAR PERIOD.

4. MAURITIAN EDITORIAL AND PUBLIC REACTION TO THESE STATEMENTS WAS SHARP AND ABUNDANT DURING THE WEEK. MMM LEADERS AND ITS NEWSPAPER OPENLY CITICITIZED MASSON'S STATEMENTS, CAUSING HIM LATER TO "QUALITY" AND "EXPLAIN/ HIS VIEWS IN A PUBLISHED ARTICLE. BERENGER FARED BETTER AND ADRIOTLY EXPLAINED THAT WHAT HE REALLY MEANT BY HIS STATEMENTS ON "LE GAUCHISME" WAS THAT THE MMM FAVORS A FORM OF "LIBERAL SOCIALISM," IN CONTRAST WITH THE SOVIET MODEL.

5. RAMGOOLAM, ON HIS RETURN FROM THE OAU SUMMIT CONFERENCE AND A TWO WEEK REST IN EUROPE, CLAIMED THAT LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE HAD MISUNDERSTOOD HIM SINCE HE HAD MEANT THAT GENERAL ELECTIONS COULD BE HELD SOONER THAN IN FIVE YEARS.

6. IN THE ECONOMIC AREA, MAURITIUS RECEIVED A \$7.5 MILLION LOAN FROM THE WORLD BANK TO FINANCE PROJECTS THROUGH THE MAURITIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. THE GOM ALSO PURCHASED 11 MILLION SDR'S FROM THE IMF TO COVER A DEFICIT IN ITS BALANCE OF TRADE.

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7. IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MORE WAS REVEALED IN A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER CONCERNING THE COOLING OF SOVIET-MAURITIAN RELATIONS; FOREIGN MINISTER WALTER REPROACHED MEMBERS OF OCAM FOR THEIR FAILURE TO PAY THEIR ASSESSMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE AFRICAN-MAURITIAN INSTITUTE OF BILINGUALISM; AND MAURITIUS FORMALLY ESTABLISHED ANOTHER DIPLOMATIC POST ABROAD WITH THE PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY ITS HIGH COMMISSIONER TO AUSTRALIA.
KEELEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1775459
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAURITIUS WEEKLY REVIEW - JULY 22 (SUMMARY)
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, PINS, PDIP, EFIS, EAID, MP, UR, AS, IMF, IBRD
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